

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-19 without prejudice and amend claim 20 as follows:

Claims 1-19 (Canceled).

20. (Currently Amended) Method for producing ~~covers~~ (1) an easy-to-open overcapping cover comprising a head (5), a skirt (4) of a film or sheet material, an easy-to-open means provided on said skirt and including an upper line of weakness (43) and a lower line of weakness (44), wherein said lower line of weakness (44) is located on the cover at a height H that defines a partition of said cover with an upper part (10) and a lower part (11), the height being such that after said cover and said sealed bottle have been assembled said lower line of weakness (44) breaks when said cover is first opened to provide access to said cork once said upper part (10) has been removed, said lower part (11) remaining intact on the neck, wherein said upper line of weakness (43) is separated from the lower line of weakness (44) by a distance L at least equal to 0.5 H, wherein H is the height between the lower line of weakness (44) and the top end of said cover (1), upper (43) and lower (44) lines of weakness defining an opening strip 45, a gripping tab (46) disposed at a free end of said opening strip, said gripping tab (46) comprising notches (460, 461) disposed at upper and lower ends thereof and intended to direct the tearing of said opening strip (45) during said first opening such that when said bottle is opened for said first time said opening strip (45) by pulling on said gripping tab (46) and removing said upper part (10), wherein said method comprises: of claim 1 comprising the steps of:

- cutting out a blank of arc (6) of said skirt, said film or sheet material of height H',

- providing said lower line of weakness (44) and said notches (460, 461) on an axial edge (60),
- providing an additional means being selected from an upper line of weakness (43), an upper reinforcement means (47, 48), a lower reinforcement means(67), a means (66) for fastening all or part of lower part (11) to the neck,
- applying a radial line of heat- or pressure-activated adhesive (63) on the other axial edge (61) of said arc, except on the matching part or opposite said tab (46),
- rolling said arc (6) on a chuck by folding axial edge (60) back onto the other axial edge (61), applying a line of adhesive between the two edges, or activating said pre-applied radial line of adhesive, to shape said skirt (4) by pressing edges (60, 61) together and possibly creating said grooves (9), and a head (5) is assembled or created by adding a part of the head and fastening it by thermobonding to upper rim (64) of said skirt that is possibly shrunk and folded.

21. (Previously Amended) Method of claim 20 further comprising the steps of depositing an upper reinforcement or a lower reinforcement either by bonding a strip according to the mechanical characteristics required, which are resistance to tearing, and of a required shape, which is part of an annular sector, or by using a gun to apply a strip or line of melted plastic material that is adherent and that hardens when applied.

22. (Original) Method of claim 21 wherein said upper and lower reinforcement means are a self-adhesive label of suitable shape applied to said arc (6).